THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (DR. AKHILESH PRASAD SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Interests of Wildlife

534. SHRIMATI SUKHBUNS KAUR: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the decisions taken to protect and reconcile the interests of Wild life with the rights of the tribals in the context of the Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill; and

(b) the follow-up action taken in the light thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) and (b) The Scheduled Tribes (Recognition of Forest Rights) Bill has been formulated by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs. The Bill is still in the draft stage and no final decision has been taken.

Proposal for Development of Forests in UP

†535. SHRI NAND KISHORE YADAV: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has submitted any project proposal to the Central Government for development of forests in the state;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to approve these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details are as under:-

(i) **Soil and Moisture Conservation, works in Ravine Dominated districts of U.P.:-** The project proposal was returned by Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of

Finance, Government of India, for meeting the criteria under which the assistance was sought. The same has been communicated to the State Government.

(ii) **Bio-diversity Management in Etawah District of U.P.:—** State Government has been informed that the project cost is very small and hence unlikely to be picked up by any external donor and advised to submit the components/ activities under on-going Centrally Sponsored Scheme (C.S.S.).

(iii) **Agro Forestry in U.P.:—** State Government has been advised to examine the possibility of including the components under another project proposal "Natural Resource Management and Poverty Alleviation in U.P."

(iv) **Natural Resources Management & Poverty Alleviation project in U.P.—** As per (iii) above.

(v) **Uttar Pradesh Forestry Project-Phase-II:—** The proposal was posed for possible external assistance from the World Bank but no response has been received. The State Government has been requested to revise the proposal.

Environmental Clearance for Uranium Mining and Processing Plant at Nalgonda

536. SHRI RAMA MUNI REDDY SIRIGIREDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Department of Atomic Energy has submitted a proposal for environmental clearance to its proposed Uranium Mining and processing plant at Nalgonda in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, when such proposal was received in his Ministry; and

(c) the action that has been contemplated on the proposal so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA): (a) Yes, Sir. Ministry of Environment and Forests has received a proposal from M/s Uranium Corporation of India Ltd. seeking environmental clearance only for mining of Uranium in Nalgonda District of Andhra Pradesh.